

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PONTA 00268 192033Z
ACTION AID-31

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-----119420 192038Z/64

R 201855Z JUL 77
FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1727
TO RUDKFDQ/AMEMBASSY LISBON 1418

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID,PO
SUBJECT: CONSULTING SERVICES LOAN; AZORES AIR TRANSPORT STUDY

REF: STATE 165934, LISBON 5472, LISBON 5532 (NOTAL)

1. REGIONAL PRESIDENT MOTA AMARAL SENT URGENT MESSAGE REQUESTING
GOP APPROVAL ASAP OF US FINANCING OF AIR TRANSPORT STUDY.
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO HAVE THIS STUDY ONE WAY OR
ANOTHER AND IS CONSIDERING FINANCING IT ITSELF, IF GOP APPROVAL OF
AID FINANCING IS NOT FORTHCOMING. REGIONAL GOVERNMENT (DREPA) HAD
ALREADY SENT REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS TO FOUR OR FIVE INTERESTED U.S.
FIRMS BEFORE I COULD INFORM THEM ON JULY 18 OF FUNDING PROBLEMS.
WILL DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC WHEN HE
RETURNS FROM LISBON.

2. COMMENT: THIS LATEST PROBLEM WITH THE AIR TRANSPORTATION
STUDY DOES NOT ENHANCE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT'S OPINION OF THE GOP.
AZOREANS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SKEPTICAL ABOUT GOP WILLINGNESS TO
INCLUDE THE AZORES IN THE AID PROGRAMS. AT FIRST THEY DID NOT
BELIEVE THE GOP WOULD GIVE THEM THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO
ALLOW REGIONAL OFFICIALS TO REQUEST PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMS.
IN FACT MOST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS HAS COME
FROM U.S. SOURCES AND INCLUSION OF AZOREAN PROJECTS IN SPECIFIC
LOANS OFTEN WAS A RESULT OF USG PRODDING THE GOP. RECENTLY, THE
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GOP HAS DELAYED FORWARDING REGIONAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND,
IN SOME CASES, IT IS CLEAR THE GOP HAS NO INTENTION AT ALL OF
FORWARDING AZOREAN PROPOSALS TO THE EMBASSY.
THE SEEMS TO BE THE SITUATION WITH REFERENCE TO AZOREAN REQUESTS
FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE BANKING/FINANCE SECTOR
(ADMITTEDLY SENSITIVE) AND FOR THE REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT.
SO FAR THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS NOT COMPLAINED PUBLICLY OF THE

GOP'S LACK OF COOPERATION, BUT IF THE AZOREANS END UP PAYING FOR
THE AIR TRANSPORTATION STUDY BECAUSE THE GOP WILL NOT APPROVE AID
FINANCING, THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE UNLIKELY TO KEEP
SILENT ANY LONGER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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